

Message Text

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46

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 TRSE-00 PM-09 L-03 AID-20 IGA-02

MC-02 COME-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DODE-00 SS-14 NSC-10 H-02 RSR-01 T-03 /100 W

----- 040568

R 131245 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1457

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: IRAN' S SURPLUS PROPERTY AND LEND- LEASE DEBTS

REF: STATE 042963

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED CHECK FOR \$754,734.06 IN SATISFACTION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY AGREEMENT MARCH 11, 1947 AND (SAVE FOR IRANIAN CLAIM) OF LEND- LEASE AGREEMENT OF DECEMBER 20, 1945. PLEASE ADVISE NUMBER OF ACCOUNT TO WHICH CHECK SHOULD BE DEPOSITED.

2. EMBASSY APPRECIATES SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED REFTEL AND HAS FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING DEPARTMENT VIEWS:

A. EMBASSY FULLY INTENDS PRESS AMOUZEGAR VERY HARD AS SOON AS CHECKS FOR REMAINING TWO SMALL ACCOUNTS RECEIVED. IT INCREASINGLY OBVIOUS THAT AMOUZEGAR NOT RPT NOT FAMILIAR WITH DETAILS OF VARIOUS DEBTS. THIS IS CONFIRMED BY TIS READY WILLINGNESS TO PAY SMALL ACCOUNTS WHEN FACTS OF SITUATION EXPLAINED TO HIM. IN REVIEWING FILES GOING BACK TO 1965 (WHEN AMOUZEGAR TOOK OFFICE), EMBASSY IS STRUCK BY FACT THAT NO STEP BY STEP EFFORT TO EXPLAIN BASIS OF VARIOUS DEBTS HAD EVER BEEN ATTEMPTED BEFORE.

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HENCE EMBASSY OF OPINION, ALTHOUGH NOT OVERLY CONFIDENT, THAT WHEN FULL DOCUMENTATION OF ORIGIN OF SURPLUS PROPERTY PURCHASED EXPLAINED AND PRESENTED, AMOUZEGAR MAY BE MORE RESPONSIVE.

B. ECONCOUNSELOR FULLY AWARE OF APPARENT AMOUZEGAR CONTRADICTION OF DISCUSSION AS REPORTED BY AMBASSADOR MACARTHUR ON FEBRUARY 4, 1972. WE HAD NOTED THAT AMOUZEGAR'S STATED POSITION IN SERIES INFORMAL SOCIAL CHATS DID NOT REFLECT CONTENTS TEHRAN 919. HENCE ECONCOUNSELOR PRESSED POINT IN FEB 26 MEETING WITH RESULTS REPORTED. ECON COUNSELOR READ TEHRAN 919 WORD FOR WORD TO AMOUZEGAR WHO REMARKED THAT OBVIOUSLY AMBASSADOR MACARTHUR HAD COMPLETELY MISUNDERSTOOD THRUST OF P. M.'S AND HIS REMARKS IN THAT MEETING. SINCE NO OTHER MEMBER OF EMBASSY PRESENT, IT CLEARLY IMPOSSIBLE CONTRADICT AMOUZEGAR. EMBASSY SEES LITTLE PURPOSE IN TRYING TURN AMOUZEGAR AROUND ON CONTENTS OF MEETING AND RECOMMENDS WE BEGIN AGAIN ALONG LINES OUTLINED ABOVE.

C. CONCERNING SEPTEMBER MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECY. ARMSTRON, AMOUZEGAR HAS MADE CLEAR THAT HE WAS GREATLY PERTURBED AT WHAT HE CONSIDERED OFFHAND TREATMENT HE HAD BEEN ACCORDED. THIS MAY HAVE CLOUDED HIS MEMORY OF SPECIFICS OF MEETING. FACT REMAINS THAT US PROPOSAL WHICH WAS HANDED HIM WAS SIMPLY, IN HIS VIEW, PIECE OF PAPER. HE HAD AS WELL AN UNFORTUNATE MISUNDERSTANDING WITH DAVID ROCKEFELLER DURING SAME WASHINGTON VISIT (SINCE CLEARED UP) WHICH MAY ALSO HAVE INCREASED HIS SENSITIVITY. BECAUSE OF HIS STRONG FEELINGS ABOUT TENOR OF SEPTEMBER MEETING, EMBASSY RELUCTANT PRESS HIM ON THIS POINT, AMOUZEGAR HAS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS RESPOND TO PROPOSAL IF SUBMITTED OFFICIALLY. HOWEVER, EMBASSY PREFERS DEFER JUDGMENT ON THIS POINT PENDING FURTHER EXPLORATION ALONG LINES PARA 2 A.

3. CONCERN PARA 4 (1) REFTEL, EMBASSY RECORDS ON DECEMBER 21, 1945 SURPLUS PROPERTY AGREEMENT CONSIST WHOLLY OF XEROX COPY OF ORIGINAL RECORDS FROM DEPT'S FILES. EMBASSY HAS NO OTHER BACKGROUND ON THIS DEBT. HECK
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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